Comprehensive plan for development of slums

3627. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to bring National Slum Development Policy;

(b) if so, whether any comprehensive study has been done, so far, to identify the number of slums and the people living therein in the country; and

(c) if so, whether any comprehensive plan is being considered to develop all the slums in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Slum Development being a State subject, State Governments survey and take stock of slums in their respective States. Town and Country Planning Organisation (TCPO) under the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation conducted a one time study on slums in 1995-96 and brought out a report titled "A Compendium on Indian Slums—1996" and according to this report the identified/estimated urban slum populations in the country for 1991 and 2001 was 462.608 lakhs and 618.258 lakhs respectively.

An attempt has also been made for the first time during the Census of India, 2001 by the Registrar General of India to collect detailed data about slum areas of the country particularly in cities/towns having 50,000 population or more, based on 1991 census, and as per the provisional figures of Census of India, 2001 the slum population of the country is 406.05 lakhs as reported from only 607 towns/cities all over India.

(c) The problem of slum dwellers has been engaging the attention of Government since the 2nd Five Year Plan. A number of programmes/schemes were launched by the Government for improving the economic and environmental conditions of the slum dwellers living all over the country. Some of the important programmes are as under:—

The Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums (EIUS) scheme is in operation in the States Sector through which basic facilities like water supply, sewerage, storm water drains, community facilities, widening and paving of paths/lanes, street lighting are provided in the existing slums by the State Governments.

During 1996 to ameliorate the living condition of slum dwellers the Central Government launched a scheme namely National Slum Development Programme (NSDP), under which the funds are provided by the Central Government in the form of Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for provision of basic amenities like water supply, storm water drains, community bath, widening and paving existing lanes, sewers, community,latrines, street light etc. including provision of community centres, to be used for pre-school education, non-formal education, adult education, recreational activities etc. in improving the condition of slum dwellers in States/Union Territories.

A scheme called Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) which seeks to provide gainful employment to the unemployed and underemployed poor, as per guidelines of the scheme, is under implementation since 1.12.1997.

A new scheme called Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY) has been launched in December, 2001 to provide shelter/shelter up-gradation to the slum dwellers living below poverty line including economically weaker sections. This scheme has a component for providing community toilet facility also to slum dwellers. The Central Government provides subsidy to the projects of the State Governments to the extent of 50% while the balance amount is to be met by the State Governments either through loans from HUDCO or other agencies or contribution from any other source.

Demolition of Jhuggis in Raghubir Nagar, New Delhi

3628. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have demolished several Jhuggis in Raghubir Nagar, 'F' Block, New Delhi during last year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that several shops in the complex of Durga Mandir in 'F' Block of Raghubir Nagar have also been demolished;

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether Government intend to demolish the unauthorised land which has been encroached by Executive Committee of the said temple; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and by when it would be removed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (d) Slum and J. J. Department (MCD) has reported that